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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2085)

Name of Candidate	Rajath. R		
Medium Eng./Hindi	Eng.	Registration Number	1433221
Center	ONLINE	Date	

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
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6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना अनिवार्य है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **HINDI & ENGLISH.**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं **हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी** में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

Is student recommended for One-to-One mentoring?

Recommended	Strongly Recommended

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. पाल साम्राज्य को बौद्ध कला के विशिष्ट रूप के लिए जाना जाता है। इस संदर्भ में, कला के क्षेत्र में पाल वंश के योगदानों पर चर्चा कीजिए।
The Pala Empire is known for a distinctive form of Buddhist art. In this context, discuss the contributions made by the Pala dynasty towards art. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The Pala Empire was a medieval kingdom in the eastern part of India formed during 8th century AD. It was founded by Gopala.

It was primarily a Buddhist kingdom & made contribution to art; especially Buddhist Art, that included.

① Chaityas and Vihasas in places like Bengal, Assam for residence of monks and for prayers

② Buddhist manuscripts : They produced manuscripts like Ashtasapsadha Pragyaparamita

③ Miniature paintings : on the

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manuscripts was a crucial part of the Pala Paintings

(4) · Mahaviharas : Gopala, Dharmpala set up Odantapuri, Vikramshila Mahaviharas where works of arts, metallurgy etc were produced.

(5) · Hymns : Pala · Vajrayana worship incorporated hymns that gave rise to literary traditions

(6) · Bengal school of architecture : has influence from Pala style.

The Palas art were also responsible for cultural ties with outside nations through the art and literary tradition

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2. आदि शंकराचार्य ने अपनी महान क्षमता से हिंदू धर्म को पुनः स्थापित किया और उत्कृष्ट स्पष्टीकरण प्रस्तुत करते हुए वैदिक परंपरा को फिर से प्रतिष्ठित किया। चर्चा कीजिए।
It was Adi Shankaracharya's genius that reinvented Hinduism and re-established the Vedic tradition with excellent commentaries. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Adi Shankara was a Vaishnavite Bhakti Saint, having from Kerala. He was the founder of Advaita or monism philosophy.

Adi Shankara: reinvented Hinduism

① Advaita: gave a new philosophical backing to Hinduism with his advaita, or interconnectedness of Brahman and Atman

② Philosophical enrichment: wrote commentaries on vedas, and vedangas that enriched philosophy and made religion accessible to masses

③ Literature: his works like

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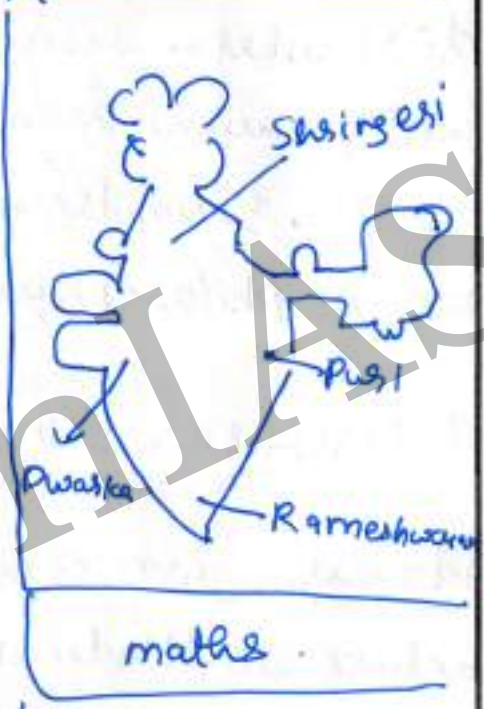
Viveka Chudomani & Saundarya Lahari simplified religion

(4) travellerged length and breadth of country & established maths in various regions of the country



(5) He opposed exaggerated rituals, caste system, idolatry etc.

His works continue to inspire and generations. The Gita Press, that received Gandhi Peace Prize, was instrumental in popularising his works.

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3. औपनिवेशिक वन नीतियां स्थानीय लोगों के कल्याण और पर्यावरण की चिंता किए बिना ब्रिटिश साम्राज्य की जरूरतों से प्रेरित थीं। भारत के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।
The colonial forest policies were driven by the needs of the British Empire with no concern for the well-being of the locals and the environment. Discuss in the context of India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

The British introduced several forest policies with the aim of exploiting forests for timber and for obtaining the forest produce.

Main laws include the Forest Acts during 1850s and 1870s, the Indian Forest Act, 1927, The Criminal Tribes Act, ~~1878~~ 1871 etc.

Policies – disregarded the locals

① Forest laws didn't recognise the tribals who lived in the forests

② They also imposed fines on the collection of forest produce and for petty crimes.

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③ Indian Forest Act, 1927 established a powerful bureaucracy that blatantly tortured the tribals.

④ The local villagers, businessmen were also denied access to forests

⑤ The Scheduled Areas introduced in Government of India Act, alienated tribes from mainstream.

(Colonial policy: disregarded environment)

- no provisions to address disasters like forest fires, landslides etc
- led to indiscriminate tree cutting and reduction of forest cover
- led to commercialisation of forest produce that destroyed local biodiversity

Thus colonial policies proved to be a bane rather than a boon.

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4. पंचशील और गुटनिरपेक्षता के सिद्धांतों ने शीत युद्ध के दौर में भारत को मार्गदर्शित करने में सहायता प्रदान की। चर्चा कीजिए।
The principles of Panchsheel and Non-Alignment aided India in maneuvering the Cold War era. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

During the 1960s, at the peak of the cold war, USA and USSR was using smaller nations for proxy wars and power politics.

In this context, the Panchsheel and Non Alignment helped India navigate cold war politics.

① Helped India gain support from similar secently emerged nations eg Egypt, Indonesia

② Boosted Global Image as a peace loving and principled nations eg UN appreciated India for korean war efforts

③ Helped Balance relation between

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USSR and US, both a source of grants and imports.

(4) created no war zones - where the 2 powers could not engage in proxy wars and conflict

(5) partnership for development : peace helped India develop, along with like minded nations eg. Indonesia, yugoslavia

(6) Panchsheel managed to build trust among South Asian nations and build regional partnerships.

These principles continue to be manifested as India's global relations in its status as leader of global south.

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5. 19वीं शताब्दी के यूरोप की प्रमुख विशेषताओं में से एक राष्ट्रीय एकीकरण के लिए संघर्ष था। जर्मनी के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।
One of the major features of the 19th century Europe was the struggle for national unification. Discuss in the context of Germany. (Answer in 150 words) 10

19th century Europe was masked by struggles for unification. This was fuelled by the policies of Napolean that tried to bring units together for easi ies administration

main movements
→ Italian unification
→ German unification
→ Serbian unification

Out of them. German unification is predominant.

[factors promoting it]

- Napolean: Brought 300 provinces to 39 provinces
- Role of Prussia: Prussia undertook

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- initiative to bring the nations together
- Able leaders: eg. Bismark, kaiser wilhem took initiative
- wars: between France and Austria liberated various provinces
- strong army of Prussia

Stages of unification

Prussia takes charge → France Prussia beats Hungary to free Holstein, Shleswig provinces → Prussia beats France to bring these provinces under control → Western & Southern provinces convinced by Bismarck to join them

It lead to new power balance in Europe with emergence of Germany and weakening of Austro-Hungary.

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6. ट्रिपल डिप ला नीना परिघटना क्या है? विश्व के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों पर इसके संभावित प्रभाव की विवेचना कीजिए।
What is the triple dip La Niña phenomenon? Discuss its likely impact on different regions of the world. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Triple Dip La Nina refers to 3 continuous years of La Nina across the globe.

La Nina is a phase of the walker cell circulation characterised by cooling around Peru - Chile and hotter waters on the western Pacific

Role of prevailing winds

Causes for triple dip Lanina

climate change induced

change in patterns of jet streams

ocean temperature differences

Impacts on different regions

① India : is likely to receive.

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more rainfall patterns

(2) Cyclones : are likely on the western pacific due to warmer waters

(3) dryness in South America : The cold water may prevent moisture laden winds and cause dryness

(4). Marine upwelling in Peru, Chile : The sinking of cold water may cause upwelling of nutritious water and may create fishing conducive zones

(5). Coral Bleaching : due to warmer water along the western pacific

(6) change in ocean currents : Normal patterns of equatorial current and counter equatorial current are affected.

Initiatives like Deep Ocean Mission and better global cooperation help in better understanding of such phenomena.

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7. जलविद्युत दुनिया भर में निम्न कार्बन उत्सर्जन वाली ऊर्जा आपूर्ति का एक प्रमुख स्रोत है, लेकिन भारत के कुल इलेक्ट्रिसिटी मिक्स में इसकी हिस्सेदारी बहुत कम बनी हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए।
Hydropower is a major source of low-carbon energy supply across the world but its share in India's total electricity generation remains low. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Hydropower, which comprises large hydro plants ~~and~~ (46 GW) and small hydropower (5 GW) account for ~50 GW of our total energy mix. (~400 GW). This is low in comparison to global standards.

Reasons

① Seasonal nature of Peninsular rivers hampers the potential

② Displacement created by major projects lead to protests against them

③ Environment damage created by them

④ Water sharing dispute between state and at international level.

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lead to Implementation delay
eg Ratle, Kishenganga project and Mullapesiyar project (Kerala-Tamil Nadu)

⑤ huge upfront costs and investments of projects involved

⑥ Coal is still considered the viable, economical source by many states.

⑦ expertise required in dam management is lacking in many areas

In order to reduce impacts of displacement, a transition to small hydro power is advisable, especially in North East, which brings the potential of regional development

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8. हाल ही में तुर्किये में आए भूकंप के संदर्भ में, सिस्मिक गैप की अवधारणा की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, भूकंप की तीव्रता के लिए उत्तरदायी कारणों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।
Explain the concept of seismic gap in the context of the recent earthquake in Turkey. Also, enlist the reasons behind the severity of the earthquake. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Seismic gap refers to the delay in the occurance of the next earthquake after the earlier occurance.

It is an indication for an earthquake to occur soon in the future and points to pressure accumulation. If in Delhi region, Himalaya region, seismic gaps have been identified. It was also cited as reason in the recent Turkey earthquake.

Other ~~reg~~ reasons for Turkey quake

① Situated at Fault : ~~It~~ Turkey is located near Anatolian, Asian and European plates. Their rupture triggered the earthquake.

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(2) The coastal location contributed to erosion and weakened soil, that accentuated the severity

(3) Deep location of fault led to higher degree of subsidence

(4) Being trade centre, large agglomeration, poor zonation and hazard mapping, and weak land use planning aggravated the intensity of the quake.

In this context, the efforts of India, to lead the rescue operations in the Golden Hours have received world wide acclaim.

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9. भारत में विवाहों की हालिया प्रवृतियों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, व्याख्या कीजिए कि समलैंगिक विवाह के कानूनी समर्थन को मौलिक महत्व का मुद्दा क्यों कहा जा रहा है।
Highlighting the recent trends in marriages in India, explain why the legal backing of same-sex marriage is being termed as an issue of seminal importance. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Recently the supreme court has decriminalised section 377 of IPC which provides a legal backing to the same sex marriages

Need to legalise same sex marriage

① In line with constitutional morality (Article 21- Right to Life)

② Protects, dignity, choice, autonomy and right to self determination of the individual

③ It is in line with other global nations like US, France etc and projects India's image as a liberal and inclusive democracy.

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A few issues like lack of recognition under Special marriage Act, unacceptance by religious community, families and societal stigma continues to exist.

These need to be enforced by stricter law implementation, promotion of diversity in education system etc.

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10. परस्पर संबद्ध विश्व में मानसिक कल्याण को प्रभावित करने वाले कारकों की बहुलता को ध्यान में रखते हुए, बेहतर मानसिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्राप्त करने में आने वाली विभिन्न चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Considering the multiplicity of factors affecting the mental well-being in an inter-connected world, discuss the various challenges in achieving sound mental healthcare. (Answer in 150 words) 10

India hasbeen recognised as the suicide capital of the world registers upto 1/3rd of people as suffering from some kind of ~~mental~~ lack of mental wellbeing

mental wellbeing is shaped by variety of factors that include

dietary wellbeing

well being at home, family

addictions eg gambling, alcohol

well being at work, school and among well being.

social media

Challenges in achieving mental healthcare

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① stigmatisation by community
② lack of early detection & diagnosis
③ use of superstition and dogma
eg:- seen as possession by spirit
④ lack of trained professionals (upto 10,000 doctors short)
⑤ lack of regulation and standardised treatment
⑥ controlling addiction - eg drug, alcohol having security and strategic implication

~~Way Forward~~ Initiatives like Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan, Tele Counculling, mental health wellness centres under Ayushman Bharat are positive steps.

In addition there needs to be proper training, from school itself to adequately address this global challenge.

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11. प्राचीन काल से लेकर आधुनिक काल तक भारत में प्रमुख मुद्राशास्त्र चरणों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि सिक्कों का अध्ययन किस प्रकार इतिहास को समझने में मदद करता है।

Elaborate upon the major numismatic stages in India from the ancient to modern times. Also, discuss how the study of coins helps in understanding history. (Answer in 250 words) 15

India has one of the earliest numismatic histories stretching from the Indus Valley times. It has seen coinage of various forms from seals to punch marked coins to minted coins

Various stages are:

① Indus valley: used seals as coinage and for transaction. Barter system was also prevalent

② Mauryan: saw use of punch marked coins on a large scale for transaction

③ Gupta: Gupta kings had flourishing gold trade. Several coins featuring kings eg. Samudragupta - ashwamedha

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series, veena player series etc were released

4. Indo-Greeks: They were I to issue gold coins. They had names of kings, pictures of gods, kings on them

5. Kushans: They issued the finest quality of gold coins, by virtue of advanced metallurgy

6. Satavahanas: famous for copper coins

7. Sultanate period: Issued copper, silver coins. Examples include Tanka, mohur, dam etc. Sher Shah introduced the rupiah currency

8. Mughal period: witnessed the issuance of rupiah on lines of Sher Shah

9. British: issued the Victorian series. They also introduced commemorative coins.

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Significance

① help study of Religion: The prevalent religious practise can be identified eg. godders worship of Indo Greeks

② tracing inheritance & descent: Gupta lineage could be traced

③ Political condition: The form of government, wars etc can be identified

④. Trade: Roman trade was identified due to such coins found in Rome

⑤ Script, language: could be deciphered on the coins eg - Boustrophedon.

⑥. art, culture: eg. Samudragupta veena series identifies him as veena player

Thus, the study of coins has multifaceted utility. National centre for numismatics seeks to advance this

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12. दलित अधिकारों के समर्थक के रूप में प्रसिद्ध होने के बावजूद, डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर का योगदान इससे कहीं अधिक है और इसमें कई अन्य विषय भी शामिल हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।
Despite being celebrated as the champion of Dalit rights, the contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar went far beyond that and encompassed a wide range of issues. Elaborate. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar is the father of the constitution and has had multidimensional contributions on various issues.

Ambedkar: Champion of Dalit Rights

- led the Mahar movement
- fought for separate electorate and reservation of seat
- conducted studies on untouchability
- advanced education and social reform among Dalits
- criticised manusmriti and Brahmanical exploitation.

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Other contributions

① Makes of the constitution: He was I chair of the Drafting committee in charge of framing the constitution

② Women Rights: fought for women education and women franchise

③ Political activism: He formed parties like ~~sa~~ Revolutionary party for political mobilisation

④ Social Reform: was one of the factors behind the Hindu Code Bill that aimed to reform Religion

⑤ Education: Organised education drives, set up schools for education

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(6) Literary contribution: He wrote various episodes on religion, society that contributes to societal understanding.

The contributions of DR Ambedkar still continues to be relevant and have far reaching contributions on society.

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13. 1930-34 के सविनय अवज्ञा आंदोलन को एक अद्वितीय विशेषता, क्षेत्रीय स्थानिक पैटर्न और लामबंदी के नए तरीकों को शामिल करने के लिए जाना जाता है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।
The Civil Disobedience Movement of 1930-34 was marked by a unique character, regional spatial patterns and employment of new mobilization techniques. Elucidate. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Civil Disobedience movement was a reaction to the denial of purna swaraj and unacceptance of Gandhijis demands before viceroy. It was special on various accounts.

(A) unique character

(1) peaceful nature: showed resolve and political socialisation of masses

(2) large scale participation: women, peasants, tribals, lower sections, hitherto not found came into the movement.

(3) combined wide issues: including the agrarian, industrial issues.

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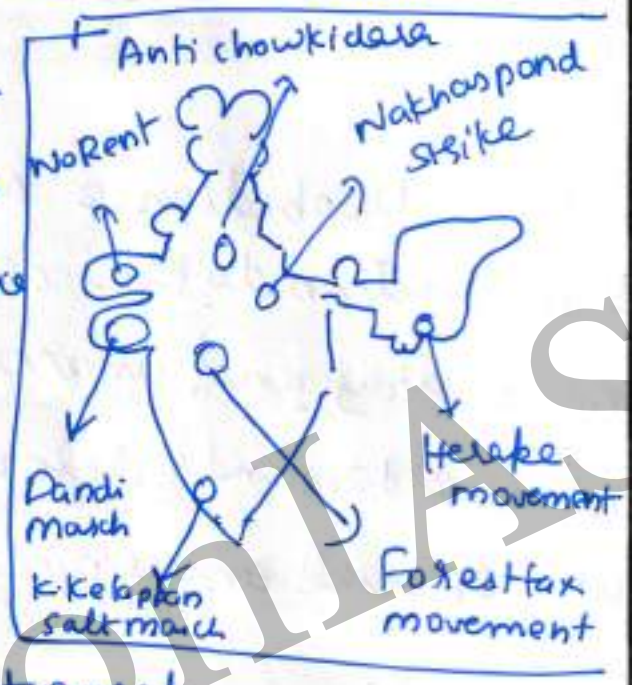
③ Regional spatial patterns

The movement had contributions throughout India



① Salt marches

↳ Gandhiji
↳ Dasshana salt march
↳ Gopal Bandhu Chowdhari in Odisha
↳ Nakhas Pond issue in Bihar.
↳ Rajagopalachari in Tamil Nadu

② Forest tax agitation in landlocked, forested areas in Madhya Pradesh

③ protest against Cunningham circulars in Assam

④ No Tax, anti eviction campaigns in Maharashtra, labour movement in Sholapur, Anti chowkidara issue in UP etc

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(c) new mobilisation techniques

① usage of prabhat pheris and maju vani's to raise awareness

② Vanar sena to create mobilisation using children

③ Salt marches to display strongest discontent in most peaceful way

④ Mobilisation of tribals using the forest tax campaigns.

These led to the CDM becoming one of the strongest phases in the national movement, repercussions of which was led to the Govt. of India Act of 1935.

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14. भारत के तटीय क्षेत्रों में द्वीपों के डूबने की परिघटना के लिए उत्तरदायी कारणों की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, संपूर्ण राष्ट्र और विशेष रूप से द्वीपीय समुदाय के लिए इसके संभावित प्रभावों का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Explain the underlying causes behind the phenomenon of sinking islands in India's coastal regions. Also, evaluate its possible implications for the nation as a whole and island communities in particular. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Several coastal Islands like Wheeler Island, Munso ~~Int~~ Island are under threat of submergence

Causes behind the sinking include

① Rise of sea level due to climate change inundating islands

examples of sinking island

② Coastal erosion effect of waves and tides eroding the islands

③ Cyclones, ~~and~~ . The storm surge

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brought by cyclones sink the islands

④ Torrential Rain: due to monsoons also submerge the islands

⑤ Unsustained urbanisation: exploitation for tourism, deforestation, encroachment for agriculture cause the susceptibility for erosion

⑥ Ineffective land use planning and lack of preparedness – eg not building groynes, sea walls etc

⑦ Large scale projects – eg Great Nicobar project.

Implications

① Tourism potential harmed – The islands attract tourists worldwide

② Space sector issues: They often serve as launchsites and observatory eg Wheeler Island.

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③ · Impact for local community – tribals, indegeneous communities etc are affected.

④ fisheries potential : The islands also serve for fisheries that is compromised.

⑤ · They are first line of defense against storm surge, tsunamis which is lost

⑥ coral : They host biodiverse corals which get destroyed

⑦ strategic significance : Stationing of army troops for maritime security is compromised.

Implementation of CRZ Rules in spirit, land use planning, zonation, using bioengineered solution – (eg mangrove artificial corals) could help to alleviate the distress.

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15. भारत में संधारणीय पर्यटन के संबंध में क्षेत्र-विशिष्ट बाधाओं का एक समालोचनात्मक विवरण दीजिए।
Give a critical account of region-specific constraints with regard to sustainable tourism in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

India has more than 40 agro climatic zones and is part of at least 4 geographic realms that contributes to its tourism potential.

In this regard sustainable tourism is the form of tourism that focuses on limiting pollution and damage to environment, while empowering the local communities and earning revenue

Region specific constraints include

① North East Region : geographic isolation along with cultural differences mar sustainable tourism efforts.

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② Himalayan Region : Issues include

a) lack of planning - eg the demand estimation, lack of waste management, exploitation of resources led to unsustainability

b) Natural disasters : eg. floods, cloudbursts, landslides

c) unsustained urbanisation leading to environment exploitation and natural resource exploitation.

③ Western Areas : Ensoachment by communities into tourist places for agriculture, lack of involvement of local communities, desertification contribute to loss of potential.

④ Eastern Areas : security threats (Naxalism), poor development

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indicators and lack of technological advancements deters tourist inflow.

(8) South: over exploitation of resources, natural disasters (floods, landslides), regulations ~~etc~~, ~~deters tourists~~, waste management are cited as issues

(Suggestions for Betterment)

- involving local communities
- ensuring better connectivity
- Technological use - for better disaster management.
- Regulation of sectors to be efficient
- Better waste management practices

These would lead to better conservation and management of environment, in addition to income realisation.

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16. पारिस्थितिक तंत्र के लिए मृदा द्वारा निभाई गई महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका को ध्यान में रखते हुए, भारत में संधारणीय मृदा प्रबंधन के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।
In view of the important role played by soil for the ecosystem, discuss the significance of sustainable soil management in India. (Answer in 250 words) 15

In India, more than 40% of soil is degraded as per estimates of the Ministry of Earth Sciences
This raises alerts on importance of soil

Role of soil

- agriculture : provides condition for crops to grow
- construction : sand is used as Building material
- carbon sequestration : reduces climate change impacts
- Recharges ground water via permeation
- source of minerals eg monazite sands have Thorium.

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- Biogeochemical cycles : It recycles nitrogen, sulphur, phosphorous etc
- sustains microbial life eg :- amoeba, earth worms etc.
- specific crops eg :- rice on clayey soil, cotton on black soil are sustained.

Need for sustainable soil management

1. Threats of salinity, alkinity reducing soil productivity. eg. Punjab, Haryana
2. Soil degradation due to erosion eg :- wind erosion carries away soil
3. Application of fertilizers is disturbing the soil balance eg: required NPK ratio is 4:3:2 which has become 8:3:1
4. Agriculture yield reduces due to poor soil which results in hunger, agrarian distress etc.

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Strategies for soil management

↳ government initiatives

- Parampagat Krishi Vikas yojana
- Soil Health card
- National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture
- PM PRANAM scheme

↳ Sustainable agriculture
- → crop rotation
- → fallowing
- → integrated farming
- → cover cropping

In addition, technological solutions like soil sensors, drones etc can be leveraged to check soil productivity and soil health.

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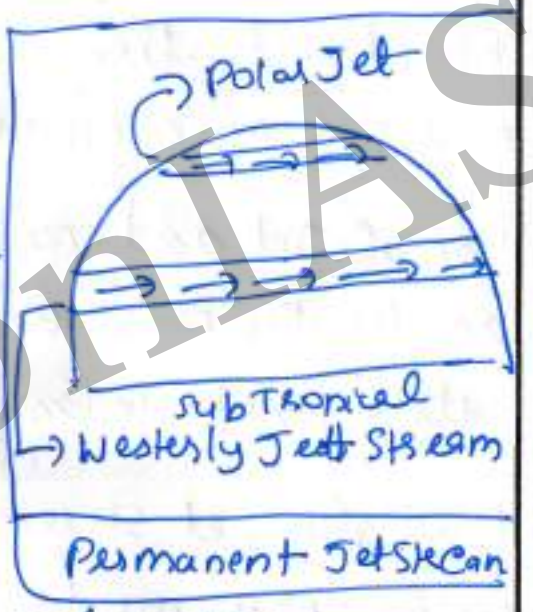
17. जेट धाराएं भारत और विश्व की जलवायु को बदलने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती हैं। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए।
Jet streams play an important role in altering the climate of India and the world. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Jet streams refers to a mass of fast moving air in the upper atmospheric Realm.



There are permanent jet streams and non permanent ones like the Easterly Jet streams in tropical regions, Somali Jet, Rossby waves etc.

Jet stream play a huge role in climate of the world, including of that of India

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(Jet stream & Indian climate)

① Sub Tropic westerly jet stream cause pressure differences in Tibetan region that pulls monsoon winds

② Their fluctuations causes burst or break of monsoon winds

③ Somali Jet and mascarena High accelerates monsoon and increases its strength, intensity

④ Easterly Jet stream creates the low pressure disturbances that pulls the tropical cyclones to India

⑤ Jet streams are also responsible for bringing the Western Disturbance into India causing winter rain.

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Jet stream and global climate

① Walker Cell circulation : Jet streams impact walker cell circulation yielding ENSO phenomena

② Heat waves : They were behind the Omega block that caused heatwaves all over Europe in 2022.

③ Cold waves : The fluctuations in jet stream also create cold waves. & Polar vortex phenomena

④ . They have the ~~tendb~~ tendency to alter global permanent wind system by influencing atmospheric cells.

Efficient monitoring, via international cooperation is required to better understand and predict the impact of this phenomena.

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18. भारत में मलिन बस्तियों के निर्माण और इसके प्रसार के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, प्रधान मंत्री आवास योजना के तहत इन-सीटू स्लम पुनर्विकास योजना में सुधार की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Highlighting the factors responsible for the formation and proliferation of slums in India, discuss the need to revamp the In-Situ Slum Redevelopment (ISSR) scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban). (Answer in 250 words) 15

Almost 20% of urban population in India live in slums as per 2011 census. They have issues in water (45%) and in health (60%). due to inadequate resources

Factors for slum formation and proliferation

- high cost of housing in urban
- unsustained migration to urban area
- improper urban planning
- growth of informal industries
- inequality in urban jobs.

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- social exclusion of lower castes
- ghettoisation of communities
- developmental displacement

In this context the In situ Slum ReDevelopment Scheme (ISSR) is a progressive step to undertake development in slums without displacing the local communities, while ensuring them decent standards of life.

Need to Revamp ISSR

- Promoting sustainable livelihood options for slum dwellers
- Providing land titling and other social security measures to prevent eviction.

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- Provisions of school, hospital facilities for better developmental indicators
- Making the inhabitants part of formal economy via ~~up~~ upskilling and employment.
- Reducing crime Rates ~~and~~ through better policy and reform.

Thus ISSR should try to go beyond infrastructural development to a more holistic form of development.

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19. भारत में निर्धनता और पर्यावरण क्षरण के बीच संबंध पर प्रकाश डालिए। निर्धनता में कमी करने से संबंधित प्रयास किस प्रकार संधारणीय विकास को बढ़ावा देने और पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकते हैं?

Bring out the relationship between poverty and environmental degradation in India. How can poverty reduction efforts play an important role in promoting sustainable development and safeguarding the environment? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Poverty is inextricably connected to the environment degradation in India.

① land degradation affects the poor farmers dependent on land productivity eg suicides in Vidarbha

② pollution of water is harmful on poor without access to piped water supply. They also suffer disease burden disproportionately

③ Air pollution harms poors without access to air circulation systems

④ forest degradation harms the tribals. Tribals are also 40% of total displaced population due to dams, disasters etc.

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Poverty alleviation: sustainable development

① Efforts like Mudra loan promote gender justice (SDG-5)

② Agriculture extension and food processing can reduce waste and reduce pollution (SDG-13)

③ PM-KISAN can increase farm income, reduce poverty and increase farm productivity

④ Nutrition schemes of PM AASHA reduce hunger and give better indicators like IMR, MMR.

⑤ DBT and cash transfers increase investable income in education & reduces vicious cycle of poverty.

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Poverty alleviation: environment development

① MGNREGA, a poverty alleviation scheme builds water storage structure to better water management and environment protection

② LPG and DBT for gas connection reduce air pollution. Ujjwala yojana facilitates transition to cleaner energy. (LED adoption)

③ Van Bandhu Kalyan yojana facilitate Tribals to better use forest produce and safeguard forests

Thus poverty alleviation, builds capability and yields better socio-economic indicators

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20. वैश्वीकरण और धर्म के बीच का संबंध जटिल रहा है, साथ ही दोनों के बीच की अंतःक्रिया के परिणामस्वरूप नई संभावनाएं और चुनौतियां उभर रही हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।
The relationship between globalisation and religion has been a complex one with new possibilities and challenges emerging as a result of the interaction between the two. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Globalisation refers to the cross borders flow of people, ideas, goods and values. It has had a profound impact on religion.

Complex relation between globalisation and Religion

- transfer of new religious values
  eg Judaism has supporters in southern states
- spread of ideas across borders
  eg. Sanathana Dharma - gaining popularity
- evolution of new sects and cults eg. Dera Sacha Sauda in Canada.

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- emergence of multi religious plural communities eg New York declaring Diwali a holiday
- emergence of revivalism as reaction to global culture
- fundamentalist groups emergence due to globalisation

Possibilities

① Globalisation helps to gather more followers for religions

② Globalisation and cosmopolitan outlook helps to reform dogma and superstition

③ Religion provides values and philosophy to navigate fast paced, globalised world.

④ It helps promote tolerance, acceptance and curiosity

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Challenges

① usage of internet for religious fundamentalism, terrorism

② hate speech and hate crimes can be easily spread
eg:- anti-muslim campaigns on whatsapp

③ religious indoctrination and conversions eg ISIS recruitment

④ promotion of communalism
eg. during AntiCAA protests, non state actors tried to influence

Hence, by carefully measured policies ~~and~~ communal harmony needs to be preserved ~~by~~ to foster a secular nation in letter & spirit.

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10:05
11:10

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 2339)

Name of Candidate	Rajath. R		
Medium Eng./Hindi	Eng	Registration Number	1433221
Center	online	Date	27-1

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **HINDI & ENGLISH**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं **हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी** में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar Delhi- 110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. सार्वजनिक ऋण से आप क्या समझते हैं? उच्च सार्वजनिक ऋण को चिंता का विषय क्यों माना जाता है? भारत के संदर्भ में विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)
What do you understand by public debt? Why is high public debt considered a matter of concern? Discuss in the context of India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Public Debt is used to denote the borrowings by centre and state governments.

Currently, the public debt is over 90% for the centre and states combined, which is a matter of concern.

High public debt concerns

① Higher interest payments
- increasing fiscal and revenue deficit (above 3% and 0% respectively)

② Credit Rating reduction
- BBB- rating by international agencies, reduces further borrowing scope

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(3) Compromise on sovereignty
eg:- SriLanka, Pakistan crisis

(4) Lesser Bondyields and investment potential ; leads to lesser FDI

(5) Lesser spending on capital investments

Way forward

(1) Abiding by FRBM targets

(2) Strategic disinvestment of high debt entities

(3) Restructuring and smoothening Bankruptcy procedure via IBC

(4) ~~Buree~~ Corporatisation and efficient running of entities

(5) Tightening Parliamentary control

These would help to maintain ~~our~~ sustainable and viable growth rates in the years to come

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2. पूंजी खाता परिवर्तनीयता से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारत के लिए पूंजी खाते की पूर्ण परिवर्तनीयता के गुणों और दोषों का वर्णन कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

What do you understand by capital account convertibility? State the merits and demerits of full capital account convertibility for India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Capital account convertibility refers to the procedure wherein investors can freely withdraw/deposit money from capital account.

Currently India offers full current account convertibility and limited capital account convertibility to investors.

Merits of full convertibility

① Increase ease of doing Business
- improved from Rank 63

② More liquidity for investors and for investments - more FDI inflow.

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③ Reduced regulatory cholesterol and discretion ⇒ reduced corruption

④ Ability to withdraw, reduces ~~lockin~~ lock in and enhances efficiency

Demerits of full convertibility

① Hot money: could lead to loss of forex and instability

② Currency rate instability hampers the exporters eg: Taper tantrum

③ External shocks hamper the local market eg: 2008 crisis

④ Reduces government regulation effectiveness on the investor

In the debate of full convertibility following the Amitabh Kant committee recommendation of taking on a cautious approach augurs well for India.

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3. स्थिरीकरण (स्टरलाइजेशन) से आप क्या समझते हैं? आर. बी. आई. बाह्य आघातों के विरुद्ध मुद्रा आपूर्ति को कैसे स्थिर करता है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

What do you understand by sterilization? How does the RBI stabilize money supply against external shocks? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Sterilization refers to the process in which the RBI pumps out excess foreign currency thereby keeping the exchange Rates stable.

Need for Sterilization
- → Balance forex
- → facilitate investments
- → currency Rate Stability
- → protect the exporters
- → curb inflation that is imported

How RBI stabilises money supply

① open market operations
eg: purchase / sell dollars

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(2) via NRI accounts.

(3) limits on capital account convertibility

(4) Borrowing from Banks

(5) Balancing ex cty forex Reserves

(6) Balancing interest Rates on the foreign bonds eg Masala Bonds

(7) FEMA act

Given the chaotic environment of trade protectionism, Ukraine War, etc the RBI plays an effective Role as manager of forex and regulator of Banking sector via policies like sterilisation

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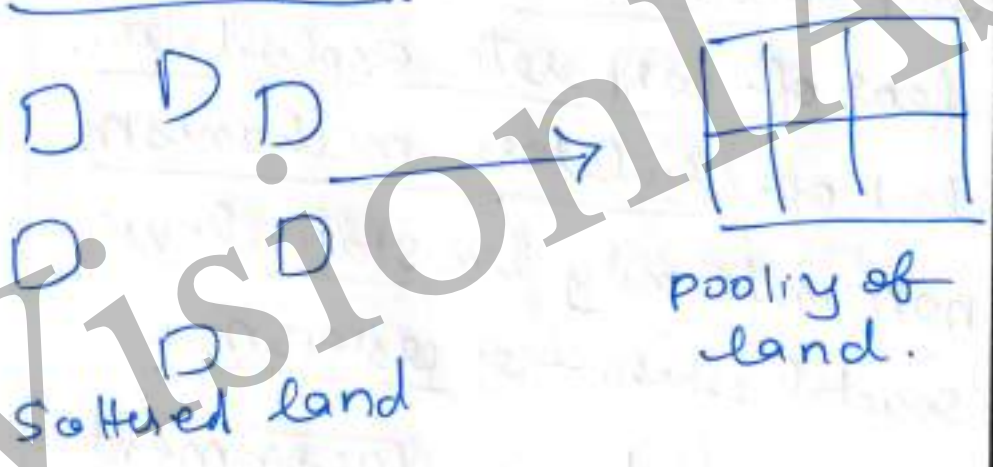
4. लैंड पूलिंग क्या है? इसके लाभों और इससे संबद्ध चुनौतियों का वर्णन कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

What is land pooling? State its benefits and associated challenges. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Land pooling Refers to the practice wherein lands that are geographically distinct are combined/grouped together so as to achieve ~~ea~~ economies of scale.



Benefits

① Reduces fragmentation of land (Averge landholding 1.08 hc)

② Achieve economies of scale

[Landholding in India = $\frac{1}{40}$ landholding in US]

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③ Formalizes land leasing market (99% are informalised)

④ ~~proper~~ Conclusive land titling

⑤ Promotes corporitsation ~~and~~ commercialisation and cooperatives

Challenges

① lack of digitsation and titles
② fear of corporate exploitation
③ lack of regulatory mechanism
④ non uniformity in state laws
⑤ societal issues – eg casteism.

Way forward

→ **assessment** → SWAMITVA scheme

→ **digitisation**

→ **land titling**

The concept of land Banks introduced in Recent Budget can also be explored

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. स्विस चैलेंज मॉडल क्या है? इस मॉडल से संबंधित लाभों और इससे संबंधित समस्याओं की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

What is Swiss Challenge Model? Discuss the advantages and problems associated with this model. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Swiss Challenge Model refers to a way of awarding contracts ~~in~~ wherein the private sector is given the autonomy to identify the projects, draw out detailed plans of implementation etc which is then put up for auction.

eg. Mining policy - The mines for auction can be brought up etc

Advantages

① More autonomy for ~~pte~~ corporate
② Reduces government discretion (from regulator → enabler)
③ Reduces government effort, time
④ Private sector can focus in area

of specialisation eg Adani-ports

⑤ Better price realisation for government - Reduces collusion and cartelisation.

⑥ More flexible contracts

Problems associated

① lack of national framework

② lack of regulatory mechanism

③ Bureaupathology

④ land, environment clearance issue (policy uncertainty - economic survey)

⑤ Ignorance of welfare approach & focus on profit motive eg. Nallemala issue

Model Enforcement Contracts and effective Revenue sharing mechanism with adequate ~~backing~~ policy backing from government can make PPP the engine of growth via Swiss Challenge

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. हाल ही में शुरू की गई राष्ट्रीय मुद्रीकरण पाइपलाइन के संदर्भ में, परिसंपत्ति मुद्रीकरण की अवधारणा की विस्तार से व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत के लिए इसके महत्व पर भी चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

In context of the recently launched National Monetisation Pipeline, elaborate on the concept of asset monetisation. Also, discuss its significance for India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Asset monetisation is the process wherein unused assets are leased / utilised so that there is effective value realisation

eg: Railway coach used for ads, land leased for agriculture etc

Via the national monetisation pipeline, the government aims to achieve 5 L. crore via asset monetisation

Significance for India

(1) Contribution to infrastructure development ~~via~~ via the National Infrastructure Pipeline

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Don't write anything in margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

② Asset utilisation can bring development to region around it
eg: shops in Leased land used by locals

③ effective management of resources
eg: no rusting of property

④ cheaper alternates for leasors

⑤ Brings down gap between government and people

Concerns
- → overexploitation
- → reduced inclusivity
  - eg high fares
- → lack of dispute resolution mechanism.

Involvement of private sector and ~~eff~~ making resource efficiency is key to achieving trillion dollar economy and the NMP pumps momentum in this direction

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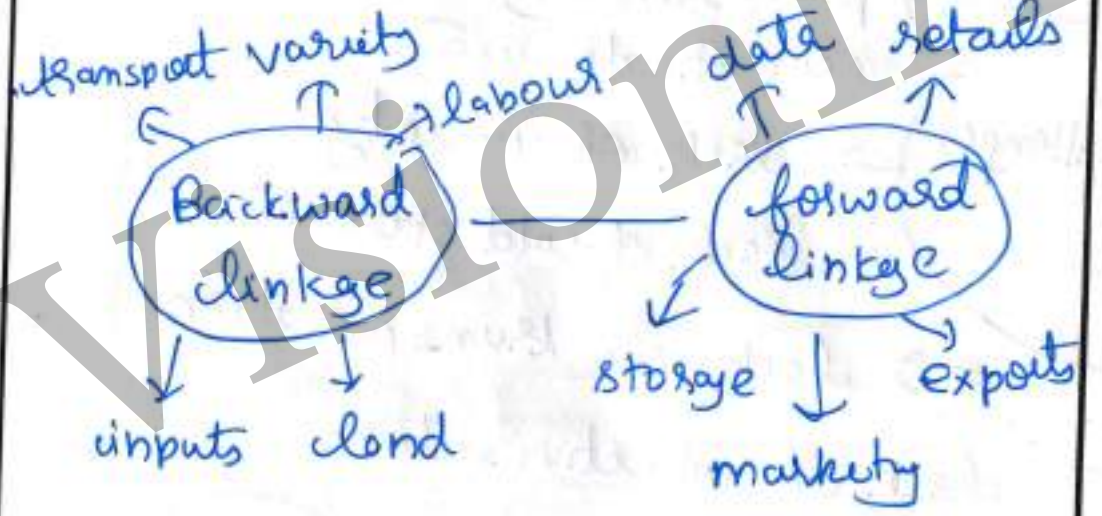
Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग में बैकवर्ड और फॉरवर्ड लिंकेज के महत्व की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में सुदृढ़ लिंकेज स्थापित करने में आने वाली चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

Explain the significance of backward and forward linkages in the Food Processing Industry. Also, discuss the challenges in establishing robust linkages in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10

In India, less than 10% of the produced food is processed while in the US, these amounts are upto 40%, which raises focus on the potential for the sector in India



Significance of Backward linkage

① promotes crop diversification (40% are rice / wheat)

② provide nutrient sufficiency (109 in hunger index)

③ Curbs rural poverty
④ formalisation of agro sector

Significance of forward linkage

① caters to global demand as well as to diverse ~~dem~~ sections
② export potential ($50 billion exports)
③ more choice to customers

Challenges
→ phytosanitary issues (eg pesticide use)
→ lack of variety
→ lack of cold storage
→ lack of transportation
→ lack of collectivisation

Sampada Scheme ← Way forward → market intelligence
→ mega food parks
→ extension services

These initiatives would help agribusiness and convert farmers to agripreneur

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

8. भारत में वाणिज्यिक कोयला खनन के लाभों और इससे जुड़ी चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

Discuss the benefits of commercial coal mining in India and challenges associated with it. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Despite being Blessed with among top 5 in coal reserves, India faced a coal crisis recently, with many plants running in emergency mode.

Recent initiatives like Mining Policy, schemes like NELP etc aim to address these challenges via commercialising coal mining

Benefits of commercial coal mining

1. increased competition (↓ CIL monopoly)
2. R&D and investment in sector (eg: fuel efficiency ↑, pollution control increas)
3. Better management expertise and sharing of best practise.

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4. competitive prices, energy security
5. More employment option
6. PPP in coal sector, reduces burden on government

Challenges

- → environmental issues eg Andhra Pradesh, Bihar etc
- → discom debt & NPA crisis
- → highly capital intensive industry
- → contract enforcement, clearances issue etc

Way forward

- policy support
- rejuvenate discoms
- carbon credit markets
- environment & social impact assesments

Additionally, there can also be encouragement in the form of joint ventures for R&D

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. भारत में महिलाओं पर निर्धनता का बोझ विपरीत लिंग की तुलना में अधिक है। इस संदर्भ में, महिलाओं की निर्धनता के कारणों एवं उसके समाधान के लिए उठाए गए कदमों की विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

The burden of poverty weighs down heavier on women in India than on the opposite sex. In this context, discuss the causes of poverty among women and steps taken to address it. (Answer in 150 words) 10

Accordig to recent Oxfam report 2/3rd of the most poor are women

Causes of poverty among women

(A). Cultural factors

(1) traditional restrictions eg employmt

(2) patriarchal mindset eg glass ceiling, glass cliff etc

(B) social factors

(1) violence eg: workplace violence

(2) lack of education, health avenue

(C) economic factors

(1) feminisation of agriculture (3/5 of workers are women)

(2) lack of ~~titles~~ property titles.

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Others → dependence during birthing
→ lack of inclusive workplace
→ feminisation of informal sector

Steps taken to address it

① promotion of women in food processing via PM-SAMPADA

② promotion of SHGs eg. Kudumbashree

③ Affirmative action eg: political reservation, Reservation in IIT/IIM etc

④ Inclusive hiring practices eg WIPRO, TATA etc

⑤ Right to education scheme

⑥ MUDRA loans to women entrepreneur

⑦ Equal wages Act, Maternity Benefits Act etc.

Recent initiatives like provision of menstrual leave in Kerala university are positive steps in this direction

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. भारतीय कृषि पर जलवायु परिवर्तन के संभावित प्रभाव की विवेचना कीजिए। इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

Discuss the potential impact of climate change on Indian agriculture. What steps have been taken by the government in this regard? (Answer in 150 words) 10

Past economic surveys have pointed out that climate change related phenomena could bring down crop yield upto 20%.

Impact of climate change on agriculture

① Variable monsoon
→ affects crop & reduces yield.
eg Droughts in Vidarbha, Bundelkhand

② Cyclone: have damaged rice yield, jute mills etc

③ Pest attacks eg fall armyworm attacks on the rise

④ Reduced work time on fields due to heat - Reduced productivity

⑤ Heatwave: have damaged onion, sugarcane etc.

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(6) water scarcity eg Punjab, Haryana

(7) Reduced cattle productivity
eg. in Gujarat, Maharashtra

(8) farmer suicides : due to crop failure

Steps taken by government

(1) Microirrigation and water conservation

(2) promoting food processing to reduce wastage eg: Mega Food Parks

(3) Foreign collaboration eg Israel — Climate Smart Agriculture

(4) Disaster Forecasting eg IONS, Deep Ocean Mission, Doppler Radars

(5) using Technology in agriculture eg ~~dro~~ KISAN drones, geotagging

(6) promotion of multicropping / organic farming, natural farming etc

These help to form a viable, profitable & sustainable agro environment in the country

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. कृषि में राष्ट्रीय ई-गवर्नेंस योजना (NeGPA) भारत में कृषि के डिजिटलीकरण की दिशा में एक सकारात्मक कदम है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

National e-Governance Plan in Agriculture (NeGPA) is a positive move towards digitizing agriculture in India. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

National e Governance Plan in Agriculture (NeGPA) is part of the government's Digital India program and aims to formalise the highly scattered and informalised agro sector in the country.

Components of NeGPA

- digitisation of records
- surveying and land titling
- agristack
- financial inclusion for farmers
- ID cards and documentation
- creating database in National level
- promoting technology in agriculture
- grievance redressal online

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Benefits of the mission

1. Access to data for data driven policy making
2. Conclusive landtitling makes access to credit easier
3. Information relayed eg disaster, cropping pattern can empower the farmers
4. Promotion of financial inclusion (40% rely on informal credit)
5. Reduced land related dispute
6. Brings farmer closer to government
   - ↳ Reduces agrarian distress
   - ↳ Reduces farmer suicides
   - ↳ Reduces agitations
7. Reduces inclusion & exclusion error
8. Reduces loss of investment via physical data collection requirement

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Few of the concerns

1. Poor internet penetration Rurally (30% in rural areas)
2. Lack of awareness (lower education)
3. Political apathy
4. Corruption at Panchayat level
5. lack of physical infrastructure e.g. laptops, data centres etc.

Way forward
- → PM Wani & Bharatnet
- → JAM trinity implementation
- → extension services
- → Panchayat as the unit for implementation

Visionaries like Gandhiji have pointed out change should begin at village level & NeGPA is a stellar example in this regard

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12. सामाजिक प्रभाव आकलन की अवधारणा की व्याख्या कीजिए और इसके महत्व को बताइए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

Explain the concept of Social Impact Assessment and state its significance. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Social impact assessment (SIA) is the process of examining the results of a project via the impact made on society as against the on paper targets of MGNREGA scheme

Social assessment	conventional assessment
→ % of reduction in rural poverty	→ number of jobs provided
→ increased HDI indicators	→ number of structures built
	→ number of working days

How it is different

- SIA is more outcome oriented

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

than output oriented
- It has a longer term perspective
- It has taken into account all section of society
- Increased transparency, accountability

Significance of SIA

① leads to inclusive outcome
eg: focus on vulnerable section
② leads to Bottom up planning
eg SIA can give different results on different communities for same project which enhances customisation
③ enables proactive decision making
④ promotes throughout lifecycle approach.
⑤ promotes citizen participation

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(limitation)

- lack of efficient parameters
- Beureaucratisation and apathy
- time taking procedure
- reduced empowerment of citizens
- political instability
- low literacy / gender empowerment parameters

Way forward

1. social audits, citizen charters etc
2. outcome based budgeting
3. lifecycle approach.

Additionally there needs to be a change from "whole of government approach" to "whole of society" approach.

VisionIAS

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. सूचना का अधिकार और प्रशासन में पारदर्शिता सुशासन की पूर्वापेक्षाएं हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

Right to information and transparency in administration are prerequisites for good governance. Elucidate. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Right to Information (RTI), the corner stone of transparency is often recognised as the "sunshine law" in India.

RTI, transparency as pre-requisite for good governance

① empowers citizens eg MKSS questioned government policy in Rajasthan

② brings out scams eg Adarsh scam

③ Reduces information asymmetry eg IIM admission criteria

④ keeps a check on government performance eg: schemes performance

⑤ Reduces misuse of public funds eg: - thereby reduces corruption

VisionIAS

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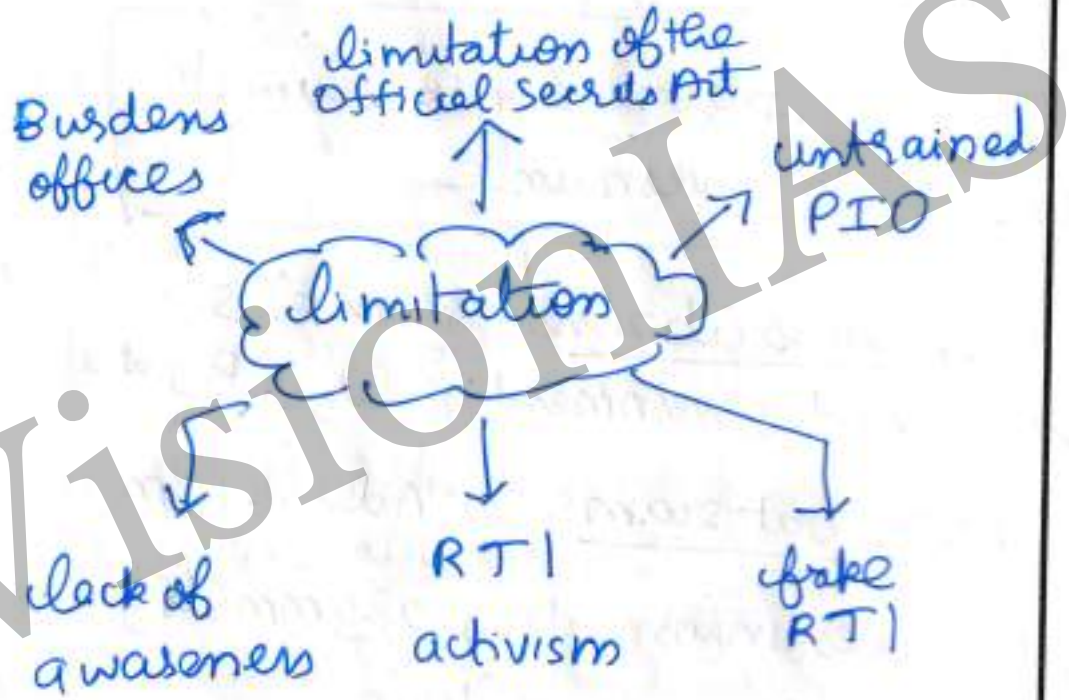
⑥ facilitates participation and democracy and brings people closer to the government

⑦ Promotes social justice eg. budget outlay of schemes like MGNREGA



Way forward

① Need to remove limitation of Official secret Act (II ARC)

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(2) Proactive disclosure under section 4

(3) Need for a dedicated cadre to look into cases under RTI

(4) Political parties to be brought under RTI for intra party democracy

(5) Reducing the number of Fake RTI that burden government office

(6) digitisation of records.

(7) capacity building of PIO

(8) proper accountability mechanism.

These measures would ensure that RTI becomes master key to good governance as envisioned by II ARC

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14. प्रधान मंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए और इससे संबंधित मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

Highlight the significance of Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana and discuss the issues associated with it. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) is the flagship health insurance scheme of the government. It is a centrally sponsored scheme

Significance

① Reduces out of pocket expense in government (70% in India)

② Makes health insurance affordable (universalisation)

③ Increases insurance penetration (presently 3% of GDP)

④ Reduces influence of agents and middlemen in the market.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. Enhances digitisation via JAM linkage (health record computerisation)

6. Pan India coverage - leads to standardisation of products

7. Covers pre and post periods as well

Issues associated

1. Increasing financial impact on state - reduced centre contribution

2. Issue of coercive federalism
   eg West Bengal backed out

3. Privacy and data issues of digitisation of documents

4. Lack of support from stakeholders
   eg upto 80% hospitals not enrolled

5. Lack of coverage (poor insurance density, penetration ratios).

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Way forward

1. ensuring the state participation
2. Bringing more disease under coverage
3. linking with Digital Health Mission
4. increasing rural penetration
5. Bring more private sector participation under the scheme

A proper implementation of PMJAY will reduce the vicious cycle of poverty ushering in Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Prayas

vicious cycle

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. भारत में ट्रांसजेंडर समुदाय द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियां कौन-सी हैं? इन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए उठाए गए विभिन्न कदमों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

What are the challenges faced by the transgender community in India? Enumerate the various steps taken to address these challenges. (Answer in 250 words) 15

The Transgender community in India have been challenged by various problems from socio-economic-political to cultural impediments

Challenges faced

A) social

1. stereotyping & stigmatisation
2. lack of inclusivity, education
3. less integration into mainstream
4. identity crisis, no role models

B) economic

1. increased poverty eg high cost of surgery
2. lack of access to schemes
3. homelessness, disease burden
4. less skill and employability

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c) Political

- no representation ; < 1% are elected candidates
- lack of legal / civil rights
- criminalisation, violence

Steps taken

Legal

① decriminilasiy homosexuality
- sec. 377 in Navtej Johar case

② citizenship rights given

Schemes

① garib Kalyan yojana

② gasima greh to reduce the homelessness

③ promotion of entrepreneurship under MUDRA, PSL etc.

④ linkiy to SHGs.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Others

1. Kerala government involved them in Kochi metro project
2. Role models eg: trans-athletes, trans-police officers given recognition
3. fee concession in exams eg UPSC
4. inclusive hiring practises and LGBTQ week/months in various organisations

These initiatives helps us meet SDG-5 targets of gender-inclusive developments

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16. जब तक डिजिटल डिवाइड से संबंधित चुनौतियों का समाधान नहीं किया जाता है, तब तक डिजिटल शिक्षा की संभाव्यता को पूरी तरह से साकार नहीं किया जा सकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

The potential of digital education cannot be fully realised unless the challenges of digital divide are overcome. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Recently government has come up with initiatives like SWAYAM, PM DISHA, MOOC, NPTEL to promote digital education and reduce learning poverty in the country

However the potential for digital education is hampered by digital divide challenges

Digital divide challenges

→ upto 40% less rural household receive internet in comparison to urban areas

→ Digital divide is skewed to male population (20% less female own mobile phone)

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

→ less infrastructure eg computers laptop, mobile phone usually

→ lesser mobile towers, servicing outlets, operators etc usually

→ Teachers not equipped technologically

Potential for digital education

① total flexibility (watch anywhere)

② options and choice of content

③ penetration to remotest corners

④ lesser cost of physical infrastructure, staff, & other operating expense

⑤ Development of edtech sector

⑥ Exports of services

Way forward

① Enhance the potential of the national knowledge network

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② Developing vernacular content
③ Multiplatform approach
eg: Radio, Television
④ Scholarships in form of laptop, mobile etc to students
⑤ Capacity Building of teachers
⑥ Collaborating with IIT/IIMS etc for content creation
⑦ DAM technology for offline download and viewing thereby reducing data cost
⑧ Models like Pasteurade Model.
These initiatives help achieve free, open and inclusive education in the lines of RTE act and help achieve SDG-4 targets

VisionIAS

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. हालांकि वैश्वीकरण ने भारत में महिलाओं के लिए नए अवसर सृजित किए हैं, लेकिन इसने कुछ समस्याएं भी उत्पन्न की हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

Although globalisation has created new opportunities for women in India, it has led to some issues as well. Discuss. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Since the opening up of economy in 1991, globalisation has provided an opportunities to women in the form of job opportunities, acceptance in society, liberalised outlook and choices, education, health etc

New opportunities via globalisation

(A) Social opportunities

(1) liberalised family & societal culture/ values and norms (eg marriage)

(2) educational opportunities
eg. foreign universities

(3) health outcome increased
eg: institutional delivery, modern medicine

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B) Economic opportunities

1. jobs in MNC, call centres etc
2. access to credit for entrepreneurs
3. shift from agriculture to industries and service sector
4. migration for jobs, studies

Issues associated

1. violence eg. urban violence, moral policing, cyber bullying
2. glass ceiling in companies
3. ~~info~~ feminisation of informal sector – no equal wage, social security
4. rise of pink collar jobs
5. reduced participation in STEM sectors
6. non inclusive work places

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

⑦ education and digital divide

Way forward

① gender budgeting and gender sensitive legislation

② enforcement of social security measures eg. Equal wages Act

③ Increasing female labour force participation (20% v/s 60% in China)

④ political support
eg affirmative action like Reservation of seat in colleges

⑤ Promoting Role models
eg Kiran Shaw, Mithali Raj

Initiatives like BCCI fixing equal pay for women's team and men's team are positive steps

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18. भारत में बेतरतीब शहरीकरण के कारण उत्पन्न हुई समस्याओं का उल्लेख करते हुए, सरकार द्वारा इनके समाधान के लिए उठाए गए कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

Stating the problems arising due to haphazard urbanization in India, mention the steps taken by the government to address them. (Answer in 250 words) 15

NITI Ayog estimates 40% of ous population to live in urban areas by the next decade, which ~~Brot~~ brings with it allied issues

Challenges due to urbanisation

① Pollution and waste management
-cited Number 1 concern by NITI Ayog

② Lack of Planned cities
upto 60% of cities not planned

③ Disaster vulnerabilities
eg Chennai, Hyderabad flood, Mumbai heat island etc

④ Urban employment issue leads to violence, crime etc.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(5) urban housing prices rise

(6) congestion leads to spread of epidemics, poor quality of service delivery, excessive resource use eg: farmland

(7) skewed sex ratios surelly

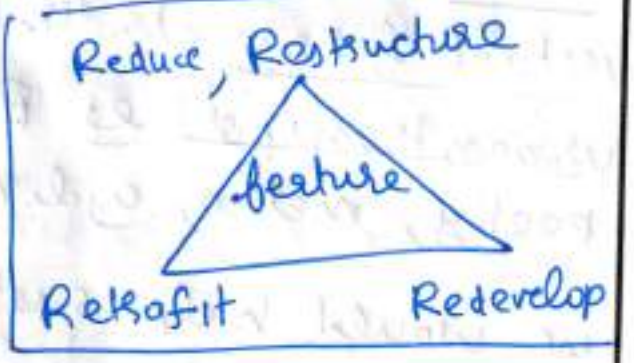
(8) son of soil agitation, unrest - due to migration eg Maharashtra

(9) reduced forest covers, encroaching of watershed eg. Adyar river, Mumbai expressway etc.

Steps taken by Government

(1) Smart cities mission

(2) PURA Scheme



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③ urban forestry - eg Telangana model

④ Solid Waste management Rule

⑤ PM Awas yojana for housing

⑥ migrant housing schemes in various ~~scheme~~ state - eg Project Chanyathi in Kerala

⑦ developing suburbs & satellite cities eg: Gandhinagar - Ahmedabad

⑧ Intra village urbanisation

Way forward

- urban employment guarantee scheme
- water and electricity regulation
- vertical farming etc in cities
- urban transport eg: BRT, car pooling, metro, cycling etc

These would help sustain the rate of urbanisation and meet SDG - 11 targets

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

19. विभिन्न उपायों के बावजूद, भारत में हाथ से मैला ढोने की प्रथा क्यों जारी है? (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

Despite various measures, why does manual scavenging continue to persist in India? (Answer in 250 words) 15

Despite various measures by government there are more than 10 lakh manual scavengers, with majority being women (95%).

Reasons for persistence

(A) Social factors

(1) caste based stereotyping (90% are Dalits / Backward caste)

(2) poor social mobility → less choices
- less education
- less skill

(B) Economic factors

(1) Less technological solution

(2) rapid urbanisation and

more waste generation

C) Political factors

① poor implementation of ~~scheme~~ laws
– eg: Prevention of scavenging Act, ineffective functiony of National Commission for Safai Karamcharis

D) Others → poor access to credit for entrepreneurship
→ less job opportunities

Way Forward

① strictes implementation of law

② Technological solution
eg. Project Bandicoot

③ Waste to Energy initiatives

④ Counselling and skill development

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(5) Promoting education and Access to credit

(6) Promoting smart cities.

These would help in achieving Vishwaguru status by 2047 by equally empowering all sections of society and downplaying social evils.

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20. स्वतंत्रता के पश्चात भारत में उभरे क्षेत्रवाद के विभिन्न रूपों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (उत्तर 150 शब्दों में दें)

Discuss the various forms of regionalism that have emerged in India since independence. (Answer in 250 words) 15

Regionalism refers to the feeling of intense commitment towards one's own place of origin at the cost of feelings like nationalism, fraternity etc.

Forms of regionalism

① secessionism
eg. greater Nagalim, Khalistan

② separate statehood
eg. Uttarakhand, Mizoram, Vidarbha etc

③ Son of soil issues
eg. Maharashtra.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(4) territorial autonomy

eg. Ladakh : 6th schedule

(5) North v/s South divide

eg. Bollywood v/s Kollywood issue

(6) Economic dispute

eg: Jharkhand separation from Bihar

(7) water sharing & tessitory dispute } eg. Assam-Meghalaya-Mizoram, Karnataka-Tamil Nadu

Reasons for emergence

(1) Need for autonomy and economic independence eg Mizoram separation

(2) Resource sharing issues

(3) ~~cor~~ issues of federalism.

eg:- improper devolution of power by centre (6th schedule areas)

(4) aggressive leadership eg Khalistan

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. Racial and ethnic tensions
eg North east Areas
6. language based issues
7. competition for resources eg. son of soil

Way forward

1. promoting mothes tongue
2. territorial autonomy via special powes and provisions (Article 371)
3. Ek Bharat Sresth Bharat Abhiyan
4. competitive and cooperative federalism
eg Niti Ayog
5. Rational devolution eg Finance Comm.

Recently the President has addressed that the multitude of cultures and languages are its the country's greatest strength, and hence regional tendencies must not be allowed to disturb that balance

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